

Exhibit 4: Letters of Support

MIKE THOMPSON
1ST DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE
BUDGET
TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE



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WOODLAND, CA 95695
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WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-3311
WEB: <http://www.house.gov/mthompson/>

November 16, 2004

Paul Morabito, Chairman
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, #1100
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chairman Morabito:

I enthusiastically support the Coastal Conservancy's proposed grant of \$1.5 million toward the acquisition of the 12,500-acre Knoxville Wildlife Area Expansion 1, also known as the Napa Ranch. Pending successful accommodation of the concerns of the Gamble Ranch, the neighboring private landowners, I lend my full support to this acquisition.

The acquisition of the Napa Ranch would culminate over a decade of work by The Land Trust of Napa County, the Blue Ridge Berryessa Conservation Partnership, Wildlife Conservation Board and the State Coastal Conservancy. I am very supportive of this tremendous conservation work as it compliments my own efforts for wilderness designation on neighboring lands.

The Gamble Ranch, a founding member of the Blue Ridge Berryessa Conservation Partnership, is an integral partner in this acquisition and I have been informed is willing to contribute \$1.7 million toward the full acquisition of the Napa Ranch. I believe it is important that the Gamble's play an integral role in these negotiations. Full cooperation with the Gamble's would demonstrate a model of public/private partnership in protecting open space. Not doing so would be unfortunate and could jeopardize their, or other private landowners, willingness to work with the coalition in the future.

I encourage the Coastal Conservancy to join this important effort by dedicating funding as well as ensuring the Gamble's are full partners to help offset the public funds needed to purchase and permanently preserve the Napa Ranch.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please call if you have any comments or concerns.

Sincerely,

MIKE THOMPSON
Member of Congress

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CHAIR
BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW
SUBCOMMITTEE #3 CHAIR
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TEL (916) 445-3375
FAX (916) 323-6958

California State Senate

SENATOR
WESLEY CHESBRO
SECOND SENATORIAL DISTRICT



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JOINT COMMITTEES:
JOINT COMMITTEE ON
LEGISLATIVE BUDGET

October 27, 2004

Paul Morabito, Chairman
State Coastal Conservancy
Attn: Nadine Hitchcock
1330 Broadway, #1100
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chairman Morabito:

I would like to express my strong support for the Coastal Conservancy's proposed grant of \$1.5 million toward the acquisition of the 12,500 acre Knoxville Wildlife Area Expansion 1, also known as the Napa Ranch, located in Napa County. The Napa Ranch will be added to the Knoxville Wildlife Area and will be managed by State Fish and Game. This addition has been evaluated by The Land Trust of Napa County, The California Nature Conservancy and NatureServe, a national biodiversity organization. Each of these organizations has assessed the property in their highest category of biodiversity assessment.

The Blue Ridge Berryessa Conservation Partnership was formed to create a partnership within a part of my District. This Conservation Partnership has born fruit with the creation of the 6,000-acre McLaughlin Reserve – now managed by the U.C. Natural Reserve System, the 8,000-acre Knoxville Wildlife Area and now the purchase of the 12,500-acre Napa Ranch.

This acquisition culminates over a decade of work by The Land Trust of Napa County, the Blue Ridge Berryessa Conservation Partnership, Wildlife Conservation Board and the State Coastal Conservancy. I am very supportive of this tremendous conservation work.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Wesley Chesbro".

WESLEY CHESBRO
State Senator, Second District

WC:bf

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

444 GEORGIA STREET
VALLEJO, CA 94590
TEL (707) 648-5312
FAX (707) 648-5383

50 D STREET, SUITE 120A
SANTA ROSA, CA 95404
TEL (707) 576-2771
FAX (707) 576-2773

710 E STREET, SUITE 150
EUREKA, CA 95501
TEL (707) 445-6508
FAX (707) 445-6511

1040 MAIN STREET, SUITE 205
NAPA, CA 94559
TEL (707) 224-1990
FAX (707) 224-1992

P.O. BOX 785
UKIAH, CA 95482
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Exhibit 4: Letters of Support



October 24, 2004

Paul Morabito, Chairman
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, #1100
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chairman Morabito:

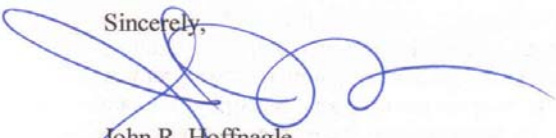
The Land Trust of Napa County would like to offer its strong support for the Coastal Conservancy's proposed grant of \$1.5 million toward the acquisition of the 12,500 acre Knoxville Wildlife Area Expansion 1, known as the Napa Ranch, located in Napa County. The Napa Ranch will be a part of the Knoxville Wildlife Area managed by State Fish and Game.

This property has important natural and open space values that we all seek to protect. Over the last several years The Coastal Conservancy has both supported and been supportive of Land Trust efforts to create a long-range planning framework for our acquisitions and for the priorities of our land-saving work. This addition has been evaluated by The Land Trust of Napa County and our biodiversity assessment studies. As well, The California Nature Conservancy and NatureServe, a national biodiversity organization, have assessed the biodiversity of Napa County. I am happy to say that each of these organizations has placed this property in their highest category of biodiversity assessment.

The Blue Ridge Berryessa Conservation Partnership was formed six years ago to create partnerships among organizations that would be greater than they could achieve alone. The BRNBA Conservation Partnership has now been successful with the creation of the 6,000-acre McLaughlin Reserve – managed by the U.C Natural Reserve System, the 8,000-acre Knoxville Wildlife Area and now the purchase of the 12,500 acre Napa Ranch. Added with the protected Bureau of Land Management lands, we now stand with over 40,000 acres of protected lands in the Knoxville area alone.

This acquisition culminates over a decade of work by The Land Trust of Napa County, the Blue Ridge Berryessa Conservation Partnership, Wildlife Conservation Board and the State Coastal Conservancy. We are thrilled to work with you on this important project.

Sincerely,


John R. Hoffnagle
Executive Director

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OCT 26 2004
COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

Preserving Open Space and Agriculture for Future Generations

1040 Main Street, Suite 203 · Napa, California 94559 · Phone (707)252-3270 Facsimile (707)252-1071

info@napalandtrust.org · www.napalandtrust.org

Exhibit 4: Letters of Support



October 20, 2004

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chairman
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Support for the Napa Ranch Acquisition

Dear Mr. Morabito:

This letter is to communicate the support of the Blue Ridge Berryessa Natural Area Conservation Partnership (BRBNACP) for the protection and conservation of the Napa Ranch in Napa County.

The BRBNACP is a voluntary group of private landowners, public land managers, regional inhabitants, recreational users and non-profit groups dedicated to collaborating in the conservation, preservation and enlightened stewardship of over 600,000 acres of natural, wild, agricultural and recreational lands located along the length of the Blue Ridge in the Cache and Putah Creek watersheds in Solano, Napa, Yolo, Colusa and Lake Counties. In the last five years, the Partners, recipients of the 2002 Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Award, have protected by conservation easement and public acquisition more than 55,000 acres. Included is the Knoxville Wildlife Area acquired by the Department of Fish and Game. More information about the Blue Ridge Berryessa Natural Area and its Conservation Partnership can be found at www.brbna.org.

Using a regional environmental database developed with the support of the Packard and National Fish and Wildlife Foundations, the partners have identified key land acquisition and easement opportunities in the BRBNA. The Napa Ranch is identified as the number one property for public acquisition in the entire region. The property contains a diversity of oak woodland, grassland and serpentine chaparral habitats. Zim Zim Falls promises to become an important destination for hikers and nature enthusiasts. The acquisition of this property will allow the expansion of the Department of Fish and Game's Knoxville Wildlife Area to 20,000 acres and will link together many tens of thousands of acres of additional wildlands administered by the Bureau of Land Management and the University of California's Natural Reserve System bringing protection to the entire Knoxville, Etlerville and Zim Zim Creek watersheds.

The BRBNACP applauds the Wildlife Conservation Board, the Resources Legacy Fund Foundation, the Coastal Conservancy, The Nature Conservancy and the Land Trust of Napa County for their collaboration on this project. We strongly urge and support your positive action on the funding for the acquisition of the Napa Ranch. If we can provide additional information regarding this matter, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Raymond E. Krauss, on behalf of
The Blue Ridge Berryessa Natural Area Conservation Partnership

cc: Wes Chesbro, Pat Wiggins: State Legislature
L. Ryan Brodderick, Robert Floerke: Department of Fish and Game
Jim Kellogg, Al Wright, John Donnelly, Steve Christensen: Wildlife Conservation Board
Paul Morabito, Nadine Hitchcock: The Coastal Conservancy
John Schmidt, Ed Hastey: The Resources Legacy Fund
Michael Sweeney, George Yandell: The Nature Conservancy
Joel Tranmer, John Hoffnagle: The Napa Land Trust

c/o Land Trust of Napa County, 1040 Main St., Napa, CA 94559 (707) 252-3270